

1 **CLAIMS**

2 1. A method comprising:
3 creating a template class that stores at least one template parameter;
4 specifying at least one additional object to be created when an instance of
5 the template class is created;
6 initiating the creation of a new instance of the template class using the at
7 least one template parameter; and
8 if an error occurs during the creation of the new instance of the template
9 class, receiving a report identifying the error.

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11 2. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein initiating the creation of a
12 new instance of the template class includes associating the new instance of the
13 template class with the at least one additional object.

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15 3. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein each instance of the template
16 class is capable of handling event data.

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18 4. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising offering the
19 template class to a plurality of users.

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21 5. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the template class is a
22 correlation helper template that parameterizes a particular aspect of a correlation
23 scenario.

1 6. A method as recited in claim 5 wherein the correlation helper
2 template includes at least one parameter to be defined by a user initiating the
3 creation of a new instance of the template class.

4
5 7. One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
6 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
7 1.

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9 8. A method comprising:
10 creating a first template class;
11 designating inputs associated with the first template class;
12 designating outputs associated with the first template class;
13 creating a second template class;
14 designating inputs associated with the second template class;
15 designating outputs associated with the second template class; and
16 creating a third template class by combining the first template class and the
17 second template class.

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19 9. A method as recited in claim 8 wherein the first template class has an
20 associated object that is created when an instance of the first template class is
21 created.

1 **10.** A method as recited in claim 8 wherein the second template class
2 has at least one associated object that is created when an instance of the second
3 template class is created.

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5 **11.** A method as recited in claim 8 wherein the third template class has a
6 plurality of associated objects that are created when an instance of the third
7 template class is created.

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9 **12.** A method as recited in claim 8 further comprising creating a new
10 instance of the third template class.

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12 **13.** A method as recited in claim 8 further comprising:
13 creating a new instance of the third template class; and
14 if an error occurs during the creation of the new instance of the third
15 template class, reporting the details of the error.

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17 **14.** A method as recited in claim 8 wherein the first template class is a
18 correlation helper template that parameterizes a particular aspect of a correlation
19 scenario.

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21 **15.** A method as recited in claim 8 wherein the second template class is
22 a correlation helper template that parameterizes a particular aspect of a correlation
23 scenario.

1 **16.** One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
2 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
3 8.

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5 **17.** A template description structure comprising:
6 at least one template class that stores a plurality of template parameters;
7 at least one template builder class that identifies at least one additional
8 object to be created with each instance of the template class; and
9 at least one order parameter that identifies the order in which the template
10 builder classes are instantiated.

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12 **18.** A template description structure as recited in claim 17 wherein the
13 at least one template class is a correlation helper template that parameterizes a
14 particular aspect of a correlation scenario.

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16 **19.** A template description structure as recited in claim 17 wherein each
17 instance of the template builder class has an associated name.

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19 **20.** A template description structure as recited in claim 17 wherein each
20 template builder instance is associated with an instance of a template class.
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1 **21.** One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a
2 template description structure, the template description structure comprising:

3 at least one template class that parameterizes a particular aspect of a
4 correlation scenario;

5 at least one template builder class, wherein each instance of the template
6 builder class identifies an object that needs to be created when creating an instance
7 of the template class; and

8 at least one order parameter that identifies the order in which the template
9 builder classes are instantiated.

10
11 **22.** One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 21
12 wherein each instance of the template builder class has an associated name.